

# Arizona Department of Water Resources

## Santa Cruz Active Management Area

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Jane Dee Hull  
Governor  
Joseph C. Smith  
Director

## NEWS

Public Information Office  
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## RELEASE

### **FRIDAY IS “BORDER WATER CONSERVATION DAY”**

This Friday, the U.S. – Mexico border communities will observe the first “Border Water Conservation Day” in order to highlight the need for increasingly wise and efficient use of this vital resource.

The annual Conservation Day grew out of a joint declaration at the 19<sup>th</sup> Border Governors Conference, held in June 2001 at Tampico, Tamaulipas. The conference agenda covered the spectrum of issues of mutual interest, from trade and immigration, to agriculture and education, and to economic development and natural resources.

The governors of the 10 border states: Arizona, California, New Mexico, Texas, Baja California, Sonora, Chihuahua, Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, and Tamaulipas, pledged cooperation to conserve water resources to improve the quality of life in both countries.

The governors’ declaration stated that “a clean and sufficient supply of water is key to the sustainable development of the border region.”

“Anytime the leaders of a region the size of the U.S. – Mexico border states come together on an issue is a clear indicator of its importance,” said Joseph C. Smith, director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources.

“We appreciate recognition of water conservation as an imperative for the development of our region,” said Alejandro Barcenas, area director of the Santa Cruz Active Management Area. “We encourage all people to be water-wise, because we all know how precious water is in our desert ecology.”

Arizona will host the 20<sup>th</sup> Border Governors Conference in June in Phoenix, Barcenas observed. “I know water conservation will continue to be a major issue and there are many opportunities for the states to engage in cooperative projects.”

Barcenas noted that ADWR and other groups have made available a host of water conservation strategies for various consumer groups.

For example, Barcenas said the ADWR website contains dozens of water-saving tips, including the award-winning “Water – Use It Wisely” public education campaign for municipal and residential consumers.

The website is located at <http://www.water.az.gov>

For additional information on “Border Water Conservation Day,” please contact:

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